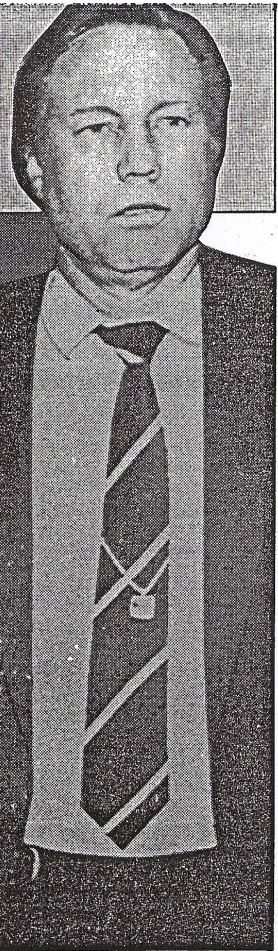


SWAGGART'S WIFE PUSHED HIM TO CHEAP HOOKERS



THE DISGRACEFUL downfall of evangelist Jimmy Swaggart and his TV ministry is all the fault of his wife, Frances.

That's the startling charge of the fallen preacher's father, W.L. "Sun" Swaggart, who blasts: "Frances is a cold fish! She's to blame for Jimmy falling prey to bad women."

Speaking for the first time about his son's obsession with prostitutes, the 76-year-old former minister — who used to be pastor of Calvary Assembly of God Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana — insists:

"Frances is cold and domineering, and she brought Jimmy down."

"She runs his life — and he allows it! I'm tired of hearing my son ask his wife's permission for every little thing. He's always saying: 'Wait a minute, we'd better ask Frances.'"

Jimmy's scandalous trysts with cheap hookers never would have happened if he'd been satisfied at home, his dad declares.

Now, the elder Swaggart says, nothing short of divorce will save Jimmy, 56, and his ministry from complete ruin.

Swaggart's crumbling



'JIMMY SHOULD find himself a REAL woman! says W.L. Swaggart.

Christian empire, including the 7,000-seat Family Worship Center, means as much to Frances, 53, as it does to Jimmy, say pals.

For years, she's been called the power behind Jimmy's throne.

"Everyone calls Frances the Big Boss,"

... his angry dad charges

says a source close to the family.

"Jimmy's completely under his wife's thumb. No wonder he breaks loose and hires prostitutes. He acts like a little boy rebelling against his disapproving mother."

Several members of Frances' family have held key positions in the ministry, and now their son, Donnie, 37, has taken over temporarily while his father undergoes professional counseling.

And Donnie's a "mama's boy," insiders reveal.

"The whole family knows that Frances is after the money that pours into the ministry," says a Swaggart insider. "Frances rarely lets Jimmy out of her sight."

But Jimmy's angry father says: "It's a wife's duty to keep her man happy. I told my son he should be a man and throw her out!"

"He should leave her and find himself a REAL woman!"

"I told Jimmy: 'Get your butt down to the courthouse and file for divorce.'"

"His problems would be over if he'd leave that woman."

Other members of the family have also taken sides against Frances in

BIG BOSS: 'Frances runs Jimmy's life — and he allows it!'

the Swaggarts' marital struggle.

Jimmy's sister, Jeanette, and her husband, Bo Enslinger — also an Assembly of God minister — completely shun Frances.

In fact, screaming matches between Jeanette and Frances are well-known around Baton Rouge, say friends.

"Their public battles are notorious," says a source close to the family.

"Right in front of the members of Jimmy's congregation, they have walked on different sides of the street to avoid each other."

Jimmy is deeply torn apart by his fear of his wife and his loyalty to his aging, ailing father, say insiders.

The elder Swaggart, who lives in a trailer park with his fourth wife, is recovering from a serious accident after a truck he was riding in collided head-on with an 18-wheel tractor-trailer.

Lying in a hospital bed

with broken ribs and cuts and bruises, Jimmy's father begged: "Son, do me one favor before I leave

this Earth. Promise me you'll leave Frances. I'll never rest in peace until I know you're rid of her."

From down and out ... to millionaire!

GOOD-NATURED Allan Sitar was down on his luck and had just \$7 in his pocket when a tenant gave him some rent money, allowing him to play the lottery.

The result was a winning ticket worth a whopping \$1.7 million!

"I was really blown away," says 39-year-old Allan, a divorced father of two.

"It's one of those pie-in-the-sky things you just dream about. My kids' futures are well taken care of now."

Sitar — who was contemplating filing for bankruptcy before Lady Luck smiled on him — also plans to hire a live-in housekeeper, travel and buy a new truck to replace his 1983 clunker, which lost its muffler just days before his big lottery win.

But Sitar, a Canadian train engineer, has no plans to leave his job.

"I like driving trains," he says.

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TRIVIA TEASERS

- To stamp collectors, what are "cinderellas"?
- How many time zones does Alaska cover?
- What was Detective Fish's first name on TV's Barney Miller?

(Answers)

3. Phil
2. Two
1. Stamps issued privately, such as Christmas seals.